

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for taking the time to discuss this case during the Interview.

Claim 8 was amended to highlight that the composition is administered in an "effective amount ...sufficient to improve small bowel transit of digested matter." As discussed in the Interview, support for this language may be found in the Specification as originally filed at, for example, page 5 – 6, Example 1, and as such does not introduce new matter into the application.

New claims 18 – 23 were added to further highlight another patentable feature of the present invention." Support for this language may be found in the Specification as originally filed at, for example, page 5 – 6, Example 1, and as such does not introduce new matter into the application.

After entry of this amendment, claims 8, 14, 15, and 18 – 23 are pending, of which claims 8, 14, 18, and 21 are independent.

For the reasons discussed in Applicants' previous response and during the Interview, and particularly in view of the finding that the "claims appear to be allowable" as stated in the Interview Summary, Applicants submit that the claims as amended are patentable. Early and favorable reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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